

FOREWORD

History

This volume comprises the recodification of the Ordinances of the Borough of Gettysburg. Gettysburg was originally settled in 1780 and was incorporated as a Borough on March 10, 1806 from parts of Cumberland Township by Special Act of the Legislature, Act 1806, P.L. 419.

The Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Gettysburg was prepared by Penns Valley Publishers and adopted by the Borough Council on August 12, 1985 by Ordinance number 1028-95.

1968 Codification

The first ordinance passed by Council was on May 21, 1906. Subsequent ordinances were unnumbered until the beginning of the year 1960, when a numbering system was instigated, keyed to the date of enactment; another numbering system was used during the first half of 1968, at which time a total of 817 ordinances had been passed by the Borough. In the preparation of the first codification, 817 ordinances, as well as 30 resolutions of general or legislative nature, were reviewed. Each was carefully analyzed and compared with State law, court decisions and any later ordinances and resolutions on the same subject, and was further considered in the light of modern needs and conditions in the Borough.

The recommendations of the codifiers were further revised to incorporate all changes agreed upon by the officials. A total of 309 ordinances and 11 resolutions were recommended for repeal; 5 ordinances for partial repeal; and 26 ordinances for amendment. It was also found necessary to draw up 14 new ordinances to replace some of those repealed. These included a new comprehensive traffic ordinance, supplanting 57 prior ordinances; a new fire prevention code replacing 3 prior ordinances relating to fire prevention; and a housing code.

This group of 44 ordinances prepared by the codifiers was introduced in Council at a meeting held May 13, 1968. Following public notice by advertising as required by Section 1008(b) of the Borough code, the ordinances were passed finally and approved by the Mayor at the meeting held June 13, 1968. These ordinances were numbered 101 through 143, thus beginning a new ordinance numbering system.

1985 Codification

This recodification of the Borough's ordinances included a review of the prior codification and those ordinances and pertinent resolutions passed since then. As a result of Penns Valley's editorial review and several editorial conferences with Borough Officials, the following actions were taken; as more fully detailed in the adopting ordinance:

Consolidations: The building code and its amendments were consolidated into a new ordinance, and the motor vehicle chapter along with its numerous amendments were con-

solidated into a complete new chapter on Motor Vehicles. The old ordinances have been superceded, but their provisions, where still applicable, are incorporated in the new chapter.

Revisions: Three ordinances have been completely revised with ordinances reflecting new state legislation or more through treatment of the subject.

New Enactments: Several new ordinances have been enacted through the adopting ordinance, at the request of Borough Officials.

Amendments: Many minor and major amendments have been made to existing ordinances to bring them into compliance with State law, and to update them to current conditions and needs of the Borough.

Repeals: Fifteen ordinances were repealed as a result of this codification.

Adoption of Standard Codes by Reference: Five standard codes were adopted by reference. These were, the National Electrical Code (1984), the BOCA National Building Code 1984, Fire Prevention Code (1984), Plumbing Code (1984); and Property Maintenance Code (1981).

The Adopting Ordinance may be found in the introduction to the Code and is published in its entirety.

Organization

The code contains four parts which are one the valid current ordinances of the Borough contained in chapters 1 through 27, (2) the appendix which lists by abstracted title all ordinances of a temporary or "one time" nature, (3) the key to the disposition of each ordinance ever enacted by the Borough, and (4) the index which is an alphabetical arrangement of subjects.

In the code, each chapter is separated by a divider tab, and specific ordinances can be located by subject on the contents page at the beginning of each chapter. The index may also be used to search for a subject when one is looking for general information on a particular subject, or if it is not known in which chapter the subject might be found. The appendix consists of several general categories containing a chronological listing of short subject descriptions along with a reference to the original ordinance and its date of enactment if known.

The key to disposition indicates what action has been taken by the codifiers and the Borough Council with regard to every ordinance ever enacted. An ordinance has either been (1) specifically repealed, (2) superseded by another ordinance, (3) is located in a chapter of the code book, or (4) is located in the appendix. Annual tax rate and budget ordinances are located only in the key. The key is a cross reference to the original ordinance books of the Borough, and to the location within the code of each ordinance by number.